GEAR Board Highlights Accomplishments, Recommendations to Improve Efficiency and Accountability in State Government

WILMINGTON, Del. — Governor John Carney on Tuesday released the <u>third annual report</u> of the Government Efficiency and Accountability Review (GEAR) Board. Governor Carney <u>established GEAR</u> by Executive Order in February 2017 to identify ways for state government to operate more efficiently, improve the delivery of state services, and save costs over the long term.

The 2019 report highlights key accomplishments across State government in the past year including:

- Saving millions of dollars for taxpayers through lease restructurings, energy efficiency projects, debt refinancing, bank services consolidation, and employee health care benefit initiatives.
- Launching the GEAR P3 Innovation and Efficiency Award to recognize and reward state employees who demonstrate successful implementations of innovative, cost saving, continuous improvement projects.
- Implementing the Delaware One-Stop, an initial step in developing a Delaware digital government platform.
- Setting health care spending and quality benchmarks for the State.
- Improving financial transparency in public education.

"From the day I took office, I've committed my Administration to being fiscally responsible, and key to that is constantly working to deliver state services in the most efficient ways possible, so we can direct resources where they are most needed," said Governor Carney. "This year's report highlights areas where we're working across all three branches of government to save taxpayers' dollars. It's what Delawareans expect. Thank you to everyone associated with our GEAR efforts and employees throughout state government who strive each day to provide services in the most efficient way possible."

The GEAR report, released each December, also provides policy and budgetary recommendations for possible inclusion in the Governor's agenda and budget for Fiscal Year 2021. Governor Carney's budget proposal will be released on January 30, 2020 at the Delaware Public Archives in Dover.

Recommendations in the 2019 Report include:

- Creating a GEAR field team to support continuous improvement projects in more state agencies.
- Supporting Senate passage of amendments to the Delaware Governmental Accountability Act (HB 133) to drive better strategic planning and allocation of resources in the budgeting process.
- Developing a criminal and civil justice e-filing system for the courts.
- Driving efficiencies through HR and IT centralization efforts.
- Supporting EdGEAR a collaboration among DOE, K12 schools and GEAR to bring focus to realizing efficiencies across public education.

Read the 2019 annual report.

"GEAR efforts are underway in agencies throughout the State," said James Myran, Executive Director of GEAR, and Bryan Sullivan, Director of Management Efficiency at the Delaware Office of Management and Budget. "Projects are returning value in dollars saved, improved quality of services for

citizens, and employee time optimized through greater efficiency of business processes. Restoration of funding this year for project management and LEAN training along with support from the business community and the State to help recognize and reward state employee accomplishments, position GEAR for even more success in 2020."

On Thursday, December 12, Governor Carney and Delaware Department of Finance Secretary Rick Geisenberger will join GEAR P3 Innovation and Efficiency Award winners and business community sponsors to recognize and highlight state employee team projects that demonstrated successful implementations of innovative, cost saving, continuous improvement in state government.

MEDIA ADVISORY: GEAR P3 Innovation and Efficiency Award Recipients

WHAT: Governor Carney will congratulate the GEAR-P3 Innovation and Efficiency Award Recipients

WHO: Governor John Carney

Secretary Rick Geisenberger, Delaware Department of Finance

Jim Myran, GEAR Executive Director

GEAR P3 Innovation and Efficiency Award Winners

Business Community Sponsors

WHEN: Thursday, December 12, 2019

10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Carvel State Office Building, 12th Floor

820 N. French St.

Wilmington, DE 19801

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